

Express Mail Number: EL052829040USDocket No. B-3970 618055-7Date: July 18, 2000

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
 Box New Patent Application
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

NEW APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of

Inventor(s): (1) Matthew J. Collins (2) Douglas R. Pulley
 (3) Thomas Foxcroft

NOTE: Patent must be applied for in the name of all
 of the actual inventor or inventors.

For: "RECEIVER CIRCUIT"

Enclosed are:

1. The Papers Required For Filing Date Under 37 CFR 1.53(b):12 Pages of specification 1 Page of abstract 4 Pages of claims

1 Sheets of drawings [X] formal [] informal
 (Figs. 1-2)

[X] In addition to the above papers there is also attached

Postcard

Claim to Priority (1 page)

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as enclosed
 therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an Express
 Mail envelope with sufficient postage for Express Mailing on this date
July 18, 2000 in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing
 Label Number EL052829040US addressed to the:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
 Box New Patent Application
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Karyn Lao

(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper)



(Signature of person mailing paper)

NOTE: Each paper or fee referred to as enclosed herein
 has the number of the "Express Mail" mailing label
 placed thereon prior to mailing. 37 CFR 1.10(b).

2. Declaration or oath

☐ Enclosed

☐ original

☐ facsimile

executed by:

☐ inventor(s)

☐ legal representative of inventor(s) 37 CFR 1.42 or 1.43

☐ joint inventor or person showing a proprietary interest on behalf of inventor who refused to sign or cannot be reached. 37 CFR 1.47.

☐ petition and statement required by 37 CFR 1.47 also attached. See item 7 below for fee.

☒ Not Enclosed

☒ Application is made by a person authorized under 37 CFR 1.41(c) on behalf of all of the above named inventor(s). The declaration or oath, along with the surcharge required by 37 CFR 1.16(e) can be filed subsequently.

☐ Showing that the filing is authorized. (Not required unless called into question. 37 CFR 1.41(d)).

NOTE: Where the filing is a completion in the U.S. of an international application under 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4) then the declaration must be filed.

3. Assignment

☐ An assignment of the invention to

4. Certified Copy

☐ A certified copy of Application No.____ from which priority is claimed.

NOTE: Must be referred to in oath or declaration. 37 CFR 1.55 and 163.

5. Fee Calculation

CLAIMS		AS FILED		
Number Filed		Number Extra	Rate	Basic Fee \$ 690.00
Total Claims	11 -20=	0 x	\$ 18.00	0
Independent Claims	3 -3=	0 x	\$ 78.00	0
Multiple Dependent Claim(s), If Any		0 x	\$260.00	0

☐ Amendment cancelling extra claims enclosed

☐ Amendment deleting multiple dependencies enclosed

☐ Fee for extra claims is not being paid at this time

NOTE: If the fee for extra claims are not paid on filing they must be paid or the claims cancelled by amendment, prior to the expiration of the time period set for response by the Patent and Trademark Office in any notice of fee deficiency, 37 CFR 1.16(d).

Filing Fee Calculation \$ 690.00

6. Small Entity Statement

- ☐ Verified statement that this is a filing by a small entity under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27.

Filing Fee Calculation (50% of above) \$ _____

NOTE: If a verified statement is filed within 2 months of the date of payment of first fee then the excess fee paid will be refunded on request. Notice of January 20, 1983. 1027 TMOG 114.

7. Fee Payment Being Made At This Time

☒ Not Enclosed

☒ No filing fee is submitted. This and the surcharge required by 37 CFR 1.16(e) can be paid subsequently.

NOTE: Where the filing is a completion in the U.S. of an international application the fee must be paid.

☐ Enclosed

☐ filing fee \$ _____

☐ recording assignment (\$40.00; 37 CFR 1.21(h) (i)) \$ _____

☐ petition fee for filing by other than all the inventors or person on behalf of the inventor where inventor refused to sign or cannot be reached. 37 CFR 1.47 and 1.17 (h) \$ _____

Total fees enclosed \$ _____

8. Method of Payment of Fees

☐ check in the amount of \$ _____

☐ charge account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____

A duplicate of this transmittal is attached.

NOTE: Fees should be itemized in such a manner that it is clear for which purpose the fees are paid. 37 CFR 1.22(b).

9. Authorization to Charge Additional fees

☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the following additional fees which may be required to Account No. _____:

☐ 37 CFR 1.16 (filing fees and presentation of extra claims)

☐ 37 CFR 1.17 (application processing fees)

☐ 37 CFR 1.18 (issue fee at or before Mailing of Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.311(b))


NOTE: 37 CFR 1.28(b) requires "Notification of any change in loss of entitlement to small entity status must be filed in the application...prior to paying... issue fee".

10. Instructions As To Overpayment

☐ Credit Account No. _____ ☐ refund

c/o LADAS & PARRY
5670 Wilshire Boulevard
Suite 2100
Los Angeles, California 90036-5679

Telephone: (323) 934-2300
Telefax: (323) 934-0202


Richard P. Berg
Attorney
Reg. No. 28,145

-1-

RECEIVER CIRCUITTECHNICAL FIELD OF THE INVENTION

5 This invention relates to a receiver circuit, in particular for receiving signals in which a portion of a transmitted signal is repeated after a known time interval.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

10 The European DVB-T (Digital Video Broadcasting - Terrestrial) standard for digital terrestrial television (DTT) uses Coded Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (COFDM) of transmitted signals, which are therefore transmitted as OFDM symbols.

15 Received signals are sampled in a receiver, and accurate reception and demodulation of signals therefore requires accurate knowledge of the positions of the beginning and end of each OFDM symbol.

20 In particular, DVB-T COFDM signals include a cyclic prefix to each active symbol, which is repeated after a known and fixed time interval. These cyclic prefixes must be correctly removed before demodulation, or the demodulation performance can be seriously degraded.

25 The fact that the prefix in the COFDM signals is repeated can be used initially to find the position of the prefix, by calculating a running correlation between received portions which are received separated by the known time interval. A very high correlation will indicate the presence of a repeated portion. However, this does not allow correction for any changes
30 in position caused by subsequent variations in sampling rate.

The present invention provides a receiver which overcomes some of the disadvantages of the prior art.

5

10

15

a sampler, for taking digital samples of a received signal, said received signal including at least a first portion and a second portion which repeats the content of the first portion after a repeat interval;

20

at least one correlator for measuring:

25

30

voltage controlled crystal oscillator with an analog-
digital converter or a digital resampler, for producing
baseband digital I and Q samples. In this example, the
sampler produces $(64/7)$ Msamples/second for both I and Q
5 samples. The sampler is controllable in the sense that
its sampling position can be adjusted. Output signals
from the sampler 10 are supplied to processing devices
(not shown) which, amongst other things, remove the
cyclic components which precede each active symbol. In
10 order to be able to do this accurately, the sampling
position of the sampler 10 must be controlled such that
the assumed position of the start of each symbol
accurately coincides with the actual position in the
received signal. Where the sampler 10 is a resampler,
15 this control of the sampling position is achieved by
adjusting its phase.

The received COFDM signal includes a portion which
is repeated after a known and fixed time interval.
Specifically, in this example it includes a portion
20 which is 64 samples long, and which is repeated after an
interval (the repeat interval) of 2048 samples (measured
from the start of the portion to the start of the
repeated portion).

It will be appreciated that the order in which
25 signals are downconverted to baseband, converted to I
and Q, and sampled, is not relevant to the invention.

It should also be noted that, while several
parameters quoted herein relate specifically to the
current United Kingdom specification for DVB-T, the
30 values of such parameters are not relevant to the
invention, which may be applied to any suitable signal

format.

The sampled signal output from the sampler 10 is supplied to a first delay element 14 and a second delay element 16, which applies a delay having a duration of two samples. The first delay element effectively advances the signal by a duration of two samples. Of course, this is not possible. In practice, the first delay element actually applies a delay of twice two samples, and there is no second delay element, with the extra two sample delay being compensated later in the processing. The exact duration of the delays is not critical, as it could be any number of samples, conveniently an integer number. A small delay gives improved noise performance, while a large delay increases the range of errors which can be corrected in each measurement and correction cycle.

The signal from the first delay element 14 is applied to a first correlation combiner 18, which includes a third delay element 20, which applies a delay equal to the repeat interval, that is, 2048 samples. A multiplier 22 receives as a first input the signal from the first delay element 14, and as a second input the delayed output from the third delay element 20.

The correlation between these two inputs is determined on a sample-by-sample basis in the multiplier 22, and output to a further block 24, which includes an integrator 26. The integrator 26 accumulates the results of the individual sample-by-sample correlations determined by the multiplier 22, and a sampling switch 28 gates the output and resets the integrator to provide an output correlation value, measured over the whole 64

samples of the repeated portion of the signal, to a first input of a subtractor 30. A running correlation is used initially to find the position of the repeated portion of the signal, so that the correlations
5 described above are calculated only for the repeated portion of the signal.

Because the first delay element 14 effectively advanced the signal, this output is regarded as an early correlation.

10 Similarly, the output from the second delay element 16 is applied to a second correlation combiner 32, which includes a fourth delay element 34, which applies a delay equal to the repeat interval. Thus, with a repeat interval of 2048 samples, the fourth delay element 30
15 applies a delay of 2048 samples. A second multiplier 36 receives as a first input the signal from the second delay element 16, and as a second input the further delayed output from the fourth delay element 34.

The correlation between these two inputs is
20 determined on a sample-by-sample basis in the multiplier 36, and output to an further block 38, which includes an integrator 40. The integrator 40 accumulates the results of the individual sample-by-sample correlations determined by the multiplier 36, and a sampling switch
25 42 gates the output and resets the integrator to provide an output correlation value, measured over the whole 64 samples of the repeated portion of the signal, to a second input of the subtractor 30.

Because the second delay element 16 delayed the
30 signal, this output is regarded as a late correlation.

The correlation result for each OFDM symbol, R , is the magnitude of the complex correlation across N

samples of the cyclic repeat:

$$R = \left| \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} x_m x_{m+N_R}^* \right|$$

where * denotes the complex conjugate of a complex value, x_k are the samples of the signal and N_R is the number of samples between a sample of the cyclic prefix and its repeat. Either x_m or x_{m+N_R} maybe conjugated in this calculation and $m=0$ is taken to be the first sample of the assumed start of the cyclic prefix for a particular symbol.

10 The early correlation can be written as:

$$R_E = \left| \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} x_{m-2} x_{m-2+N_R}^* \right|$$

and the late correlation as:

$$R_L = \left| \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} x_{m+2} x_{m+2+N_R}^* \right|$$

15 The subtractor 30 receives the two correlation values as inputs, and therefore provides an output signal which is a measure of the difference between the correlation values calculated in the correlation combiners 18, 32 respectively. The full significance of this will be described in more detail with reference to Figure 2 below.

20 More specifically, the difference between the correlation values is taken to be proportional to the time error in the initially assumed sampling position. Thus:

25

$$\Delta t \propto \left| \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} x_{m-2} x_{m-2+N_R}^* \right| - \left| \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} x_{m+2} x_{m+2+N_R}^* \right|$$

The output signal from the subtractor 30 is supplied to a feedback loop filter 44 which appears in a feedback loop 46, and the output thereof is applied to the sampler 10 to control the sampling position.

Thus, if the result of the correlation calculations is that the input signal is found to be more closely correlated with the delayed signal or the effectively advanced signal, a correction is applied to the sampling position which will tend to equalize these correlations.

A more detailed explanation of the operation of the circuit will now be given with reference to Figure 2.

Figure 2 is a partial schematic illustration (not to scale) of the time history of a digitally sampled received COFDM signal. The signal includes a first portion 50, and a second portion 52, which is identical thereto and can therefore be seen as a repeat of the first portion. The signal also includes a third portion 54, and a fourth portion 56, which is identical thereto and can therefore be seen as a repeat of the third portion. The first, second, third and fourth portions 50, 52, 54, 56 each have a duration 58 of 64 samples.

The start of the second portion is 2048 samples after the start of the first portion, and the start of the fourth portion is 2048 samples after the start of the third portion. Thus, the repeat period is 2048 samples. Therefore if either the first or third portion of the signal were delayed by 2048 samples, it would be found to be exactly correlated (ignoring distortions,

noise, etc.) with the signal actually being received at that time.

When demodulating signals, it is important to know exactly when to expect to receive the start of each active symbol. This also allows other data, for example the cyclic prefixes which appear before each active symbol, to be removed. An error can mean that the receiver has a reduced ability to remove "ghost" images from the received signal, or can mean that the receiver is unable to reproduce any picture at all.

Figure 2 shows a delay 60 of 2048 samples as applied by the delay element 20 to a signal portion 62 which is two frames in advance of the portion 50 which is to be repeated, and which produces a delayed signal portion 64. Thus, the correlator 22 measures the correlation between the delayed signal portion 64 and the signal portion actually received at the same time. To the extent that signal portion 62 overlaps with signal portion 50, the delayed signal portion 64 is perfectly correlated (again ignoring distortions, noise, etc.) with the signal portion actually received at the same time. However, to the extent that signal portion 62 does not overlap with signal portion 50, the delayed signal portion 64 is broadly uncorrelated with the signal portion actually received at the same time.

Figure 2 also shows a delay 66 of 2048 samples as applied by the delay element 34 to a signal portion 68 which is two samples behind the portion 50 which is to be repeated, and which produces a delayed signal portion 70. Thus, the correlator 36 measures the correlation between the delayed signal portion 70 and the signal portion actually received at the same time. To the

extent that signal portion 68 overlaps with signal portion 50, the delayed signal portion 70 is perfectly correlated (again ignoring distortions, noise, etc.) with the signal portion actually received at the same time. However, to the extent that signal portion 68 does not overlap with signal portion 50, the delayed signal portion 70 is broadly uncorrelated with the signal portion actually received at the same time.

If the assumed sampling position is exactly synchronized with the transmitted signal, then the signal portion 62 would begin exactly two samples before the signal portion 50. The delayed signal portion 64 would then be correlated with the signal portion actually received at the same time for 62 samples out of 64, and uncorrelated for the remaining 2 samples out of 64. Similarly, the delayed signal portion 70 would then be correlated with the signal portion actually received at the same time for 62 samples out of 64, and uncorrelated for the remaining 2 samples out of 64.

Thus, taken over many OFDM symbols, the average values of the measures of correlation, as determined by the two correlation combiners 18, 32, would be exactly equal.

If, by contrast, the sampling position were slightly in advance of the received signal, the signal portion 62 would overlap with signal portion 50 for longer than before, and the delayed signal portion 64 would be more highly correlated with the signal portion actually received at the same time. At the same time, the signal portion 68 would overlap with signal portion 50 for a shorter time than before, and the delayed signal portion 70 would be less highly correlated with

the signal portion actually received at the same time.

Conversely, if the sampling position were slightly retarded relative to the received signal, the signal portion 62 would overlap with signal portion 50 for a shorter time than before, and the delayed signal portion 64 would be less highly correlated with the signal portion actually received at the same time. At the same time, the signal portion 68 would overlap with signal portion 50 for a longer time than before, and the delayed signal portion 70 would be more highly correlated with the signal portion actually received at the same time.

Returning to Figure 1, therefore, a zero output from the filter 44 is produced when the symbol start position of the receiver is exactly synchronized with the received signal, and produces no change in the sampling position. However, a non-zero output from the filter 44 is produced when the sampling position of the receiver is not exactly synchronized with the received signal, and is fed back to control the sampler 10 to produce a change in the sampling position. This change acts to bring the sampling position of the receiver into synchronization with the received signal.

The offset period of two samples, as described above, will often be greater than the actual offset. That being so, the last 60 samples of the signal portion 62 should be exactly correlated (again ignoring distortions, noise, etc.) with the last 60 samples of the signal portion 64, with any uncorrelation being confined to the first 4 samples. It is therefore sufficient to calculate the correlation only during these first 4 samples. Similarly, the first 60 samples

of the signal portion 68 should be exactly correlated
(again ignoring distortions, noise, etc.) with the first
60 samples of the signal portion 70, with any
uncorrelation being confined to the last 4 samples. It
5 is therefore sufficient to calculate the correlation
only during these last 4 samples.

In other words, we can assume that, on average, the
difference between the overlapping portions of the two
correlations is zero. Hence, it is possible to use the
10 following approximation, if calculated over a
sufficiently large number of symbols.

$$\Delta t \propto \text{Average} \left\{ \left| \sum_{m=0}^3 x_{m-2} x_{m-2+N_R} \right| - \left| \sum_{m=N-4}^{N-1} x_{m+2} x_{m+2-N_R} \right| \right\}$$

15 This modification therefore advantageously reduces
the calculations and storage required.

The use of an offset period of two samples means
that this is the largest error which can be corrected in
each measurement and correction cycle. In the event that
20 the actual offset is greater than two samples, then a
correction of two samples is applied in each cycle,
until the offset becomes less than two samples.

There are therefore disclosed a receiver circuit,
and a method of controlling a sampling position therein,
25 which allows exact synchronization to be achieved
between the sampling position and the received sample
position.

CLAIMS

1. A receiver circuit, comprising:

a sampler, for taking digital samples of a received signal, said received signal including at least a first portion and a second portion which repeats the content of the first portion after a repeat interval;

a processing device, for processing the digital samples on the basis of an assumed position of the first and second portions in the received signal;

at least one correlator for measuring:

a first correlation between a first group of samples including at least samples around the beginning of the first portion of the signal, and a second group of samples including at least samples around the beginning of the second portion of the signal; and

a second correlation between a third group of samples including at least samples around the end of the first portion of the signal, and a fourth group of samples including at least samples around the end of the second portion of the signal;

means for comparing the measured first and second correlations to produce a comparison output; and

means for determining the assumed position of the first and second portions on the basis of the comparison output in order to tend to equalize the first and second correlations.

2. A receiver circuit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first, second, third and fourth group of samples each have the same length as the first and second portions of the signal.

3. A receiver circuit as claimed in claim 2,
wherein the first group of samples is offset relative to
the first portion of the signal, the second group of
samples is offset relative to the second portion of the
5 signal, the third group of samples is offset relative to
the first portion of the signal, and the fourth group of
samples is offset relative to the second portion of the
signal, the durations of said offsets all being equal.

4. A receiver circuit as claimed in claim 3,
10 wherein the durations of said offsets are all equal to
two sample periods.

5. A receiver circuit as claimed in claim 1,
wherein the first group of samples includes a
predetermined number of samples at the beginning of the
15 first portion of the signal, the second group of samples
includes a predetermined number of samples at the
beginning of the second portion of the signal, the third
group of samples includes a predetermined number of
samples at the end of the first portion of the signal,
20 and the fourth group of samples includes a predetermined
number of samples at the end of the second portion of
the signal.

6. A method for receiving signals, the method
comprising:
25 taking digital samples of a received signal, said
received signal including at least a first portion and a
second portion which repeats the content of the first
portion after a repeat interval;

processing the digital samples on the basis of an
30 assumed position of the first and second portions in the
received signal;

measuring a first correlation between a first group of samples including at least samples at the beginning of the first portion of the signal, and a second group of samples including at least samples at the beginning of the second portion of the signal; and

5

measuring a second correlation between a third group of samples including at least samples at the end of the first portion of the signal, and a

10

fourth group of samples including at least samples at the end of the second portion of the signal;

comparing the measured first and second correlations to produce a comparison output; and

15

determining the assumed position of the first and second portions on the basis of the comparison output in order to tend to equalize the first and second correlations.

20

7. A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the first, second, third and fourth group of samples each have the same length as the first and second portions of the signal.

25

8. A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the first group of samples is offset relative to the first portion of the signal, the second group of samples is offset relative to the second portion of the signal, the third group of samples is offset relative to the first portion of the signal, and the fourth group of samples is offset relative to the second portion of the signal, the durations of said offsets all being equal.

30

9. A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the durations of said offsets are all equal to two sample periods.

10. A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the first group of samples includes a predetermined number of samples at the beginning of the first portion of the signal, the second group of samples includes a
5 predetermined number of samples at the beginning of the second portion of the signal, the third group of samples includes a predetermined number of samples at the end of the first portion of the signal, and the fourth group of samples includes a predetermined number of samples at
10 the end of the second portion of the signal.

11. A receiver circuit, for processing a received signal, said received signal including at least a first portion and a second portion which repeats the content of the first portion after a repeat interval, the
15 receiver comprising at least one correlator, for calculating an early correlation and a late correlation, the early correlation being measured between samples ahead of an assumed first portion start position and ahead of an assumed second portion start position, and
20 the late correlation being measured between samples behind an assumed first portion end position and behind an assumed second portion end position, and revising the assumed start and end positions on the basis of a calculated difference between the early correlation and
25 the late correlation.

RECEIVER CIRCUIT

[illegible]

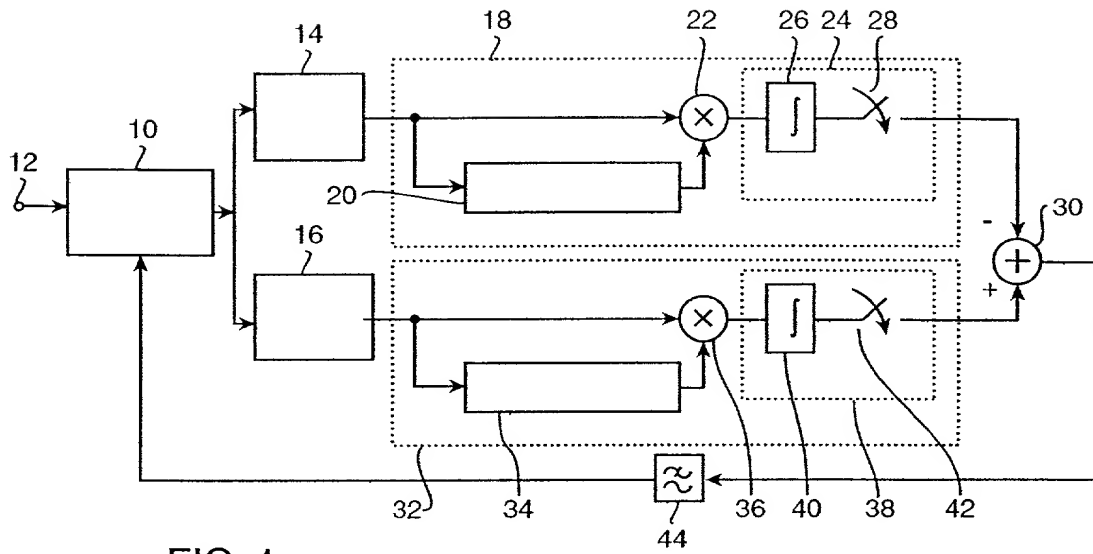


FIG. 1

46

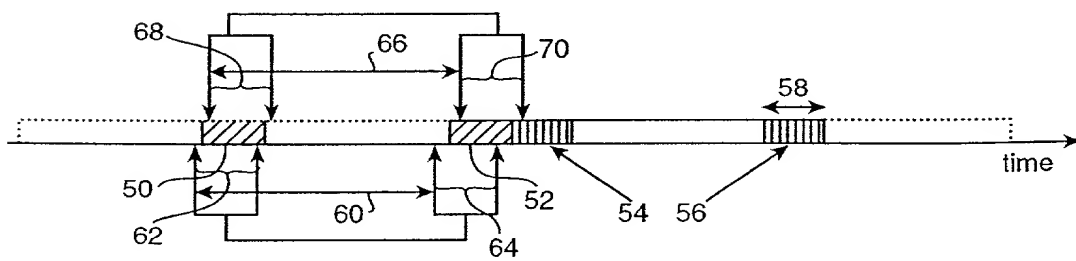


FIG. 2

Attorney's Docket No. B-3970 618055-7**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

(ORIGINAL, DESIGN, NATIONAL STAGE OF PCT, SUPPLEMENTAL, DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION, OR CIP)

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

TYPE OF DECLARATION

This declaration is of the following type: (check one applicable item below)

- ☐ original
☐ design
☐ supplemental

NOTE: If the declaration is for an International Application being filed as a divisional, continuation or continuation-in-part application, do not check next item; check appropriate one of last three items.

- ☐ national stage of PCT

NOTE: If one of the following 3 items apply, then complete and also attach ADDED PAGES FOR DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION, OR CIP.

- ☐ divisional
☐ continuation
☐ continuation-in-part (CIP)

INVENTORSHIP IDENTIFICATION

WARNING: If the inventors are each not the inventors of all the claims an explanation of the facts, including the ownership of all the claims at the time the last claimed invention was made, should be submitted.

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name. I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

TITLE OF INVENTION**"RECEIVER CIRCUIT"****SPECIFICATION IDENTIFICATION**

the specification of which: (complete (a), (b) or (c))

- (a) ☐ is attached hereto.
 (b) ☐ was filed on _____ as ☐ Serial No. 09/ _____
 or ☐ Express Mail No., as Serial No. not yet known, _____
 and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

NOTE: Amendments filed after the original papers are deposited with the PTO which contain new matter are not accorded a filing date by being referred to in the declaration. Accordingly, the amendments involved are those filed with the application papers or, in the case of a supplemental declaration, are those amendments claiming matter not encompassed in the original statement of invention or claims. See 37 CFR 1.67.

- (c) ☐ was described and claimed in PCT International Application No. _____
 filed on _____ as amended under PCT Article 19 (1)
 on _____ (if any).

006720 18521960

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code Federal Regulations § 1.56.

[] In compliance with this duty there is attached an information disclosure statement 37 CFR 1.97.

PRIORITY CLAIM

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign applications(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed.

(complete (d) or (e))

(d) [] no such applications have been filed.

(e) [X] such applications have been filed as follows.

NOTE: Where item (c) is entered above and the International Application which designated the U.S. claimed priority check item (e), enter the details below and make the priority claim.

EARLIEST FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FILED WITHIN 12 MONTHS (6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN(S)) PRIOR TO THIS U.S. APPLICATION

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 37 USC 119
United Kingdom	9916894.0	19 July 1999	[X] YES [] NO
			[] YES [] NO
			[] YES [] NO
			[] YES [] NO
			[] YES [] NO

ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY FILED MORE THAN 12 MONTHS (6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN(S)) PRIOR TO THIS U.S. APPLICATION

POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (*List name and registration number*)

Richard P. Berg, Reg. No. 28,145
Mavis S. Gallenson, Reg. No. 32,464
Kam C. Louie, Reg. No. 33,008
Ross A. Schmitt, Reg. No. 42,529

Victor Repkin, Reg. No. 45,039
John Palmer, Reg. No. 36,885
Peter D. Galloway, Reg. No. 27, 885
William R. Evans, Reg. No. 25, 858

(*check the following item, if applicable*)

[] Attached as part of this declaration and power of attorney is the authorization of the above-named attorney(s) to accept and follow instructions from my representative(s).

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

Richard P. Berg, Esq.
c/o LADAS & PARRY
5670 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 2100
Los Angeles, California 90036-5679

DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO:

(*Name and telephone number*)

Richard P. Berg
(323) 934-2300

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

SIGNATURE(S)

Full name of **sole or first inventor** Matthew J. Collins

Inventor's signature _____

Date _____ Country of Citizenship United Kingdom

Residence Elm Place Cottage, 97 High Street, Weston Village, Bath, BA1 4DQ, England

Post Office Address (same as residence)

Full name of **second joint inventor**, if any Douglas R. Pulley

Inventor's signature _____

Date _____ Country of Citizenship United Kingdom

Residence 19 Prospect Place, Camden Road, Bath, BA1 5JD, England

Post Office Address (same as residence)

Full name of **third joint inventor**, if any Thomas Foxcroft

Inventor's signature _____

Date _____ Country of Citizenship United Kingdom

Residence 52B Pembroke Road, Bristol, BS8 3DT, England

Post Office Address (same as residence)

**CHECK PROPER BOX(ES) FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ADDED PAGES(S)
WHICH FORM A PART OF THIS DECLARATION**

- [] Signature for third and subsequent joint inventors. *Number of pages added* ____
- [] Signature by administrator(trix), executor(trix) or legal representative for deceased or incapacitated inventor. *Number of pages added* _____
- [] Signature for inventor who refuses to sign or cannot be reached by person authorized under 37 CFR 1.47. *Number of pages added* *Added pages to combined declaration and power of attorney for divisional, continuation-in-part (CIP) application.*
Number of pages added ____

* * *

- [] Authorization of attorney(s) to accept and follow instructions from representative.

* * *

If no further pages form a part of this Declaration then end this Declaration with this page and check the following item.

- [x] This declaration ends with this page.